LAAC: Weekly Leadership Update
July 6, 2018

Call Agenda & Discussion Questions

1. **North Star Updates** *(Pre-Reading is below)*
    a. **Authorization & Oversight**
        Have we heard back from Hilda on renewal criteria? When is the right time to follow up? When will be the right time to accept that no changes will be made, and move forward with a public collective action campaign?
        Discussion: How do we anticipate board offices and Austin will react to collective action?
    b. **Facilities – Long Term Agreements**
    c. **Facilities – Bond**
        Can you help with advocacy leading up to Tuesday's board meeting re: parcel tax?
    d. **Relationships**
2. **Additional Updates** *(Pre-Reading is at the end of this document)*
    a. **Common Enrollment**
    b. **Board District 5**
        To your knowledge, are there civic leaders or established education professionals living in Board District 5 who might be interested in a caretaker role on the BOE?
    c. **OIG Update**
    d. **Miscellaneous**

Pre-Reading: North Star Updates

Authorization & Oversight *North Star: Oversight of charter schools is efficient for both LAUSD and educators, centered on student learning, and promotes a collaborative relationship between charter schools and their authorizer.*	
Current Strategy	**Updated Authorization & Oversight Policy:** We had our clearest window to date to make this happen with Ref's resolution, which we successfully killed at June's board meeting. We decided we did not want to encourage the continuation of Applicable Policies Working Group, which has essentially died out. We will need to push for an alternative path forward in this area, and are focused on leadership changes as a logical next step since policy is good, but there is a gap between policy and practice. **Path forward:** • **Testing the CSD with renewal criteria** • **Pushing for changing staffing at the CSD if they are not responsive** • **Updating renewal criteria so we can work backwards and have Authorizing and Oversight can reflect those improvements**
	Oversight Feedback & Survey: We believe that the strongest argument to the new superintendent to encourage him to make changes on charter issues will be to demonstrate the gap between the existing policy and practice: the policies are good, but staff is ineffective and isn't following them. **Glenn Gritzner** shared that he thinks that is a strong argument for **Austin**. We are continuing to document the gap via the circulation of a new oversight and authorization survey and compiling school leader anecdotes, particularly now that most schools have completed

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	oversight visits for the year.
	Updated Charter Renewal Criteria: - It's become clear that CSD still does not want to update renewal criteria, despite feedback given by charter leaders at the Listen & Learn session. However, the LAAC's meeting with **Austin Beutner** may have reopened the pathway for an administrative update to renewal criteria, and we are focused on continued follow-up with **Hilda**. - Members will submit renewal petitions with CCSA criteria if no or minimal changes are secured. We are also preparing for a public collective action campaign. - We are also continuing to monitor conversations around the Performance Framework. We understand **Emilio**, **Cristina** and **Marcia** will be asked to join the working group. Based on **Jose**'s recent messaging, we are concerned that the Performance Framework is being used as an excuse not to tackle charter renewal criteria, and we are speaking to this with Board Members. **Path Forward:** • **Continue follow-up from the meeting with Austin.** • **Submit petitions with CCSA criteria if no or minimal changes are secured; Prepare for collective action campaign if needed.** • **Marcia, Emilio, Cristina join performance framework group.**
What Happened Last Week	**Updated Authorization & Oversight Policy:** No new updates.
	Oversight Feedback & Survey: No new updates.
	Updated Charter Renewal Criteria: - **Noah Devine** is a data consultant currently engaged by **Austin** to create a data snapshot of all schools within LAUSD. Noah, who used to work with a CCSA employee in New Orleans, reached out to CCSA for help pulling charter school data for this project. LA RA also primed Noah on renewal criteria advocacy. He is willing to help us do some digging during his data conversations with district staff, including a scheduled conversation with **Hilda** next week. - **Emilio** sent a follow-up document to **Hilda** to address her questions and concerns regarding CCSA's Accountability Framework. - LA RA began working with **Jason Mandell** on planning the potential collective action campaign.
What's Happening Next Week	**Updated Authorization & Oversight Policy:** See below
	Oversight Feedback & Survey: The Oversight Policy Working Group will continue analysis of oversight survey results.
	Updated Charter Renewal Criteria: - Approximately 20 renewal petitions are scheduled for intake at LAUSD, with CCSA's Accountability Report included in Element 1. The LAUSD Board will vote on the 18-19 Board Calendar on Tuesday. If September 4th is chosen for the September charter-only board meeting, schools will move forward with intake. If September 25th is chosen, most intake appointments will be pushed back to avoid signing a timeline extension.

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	- On Monday, LA RA will speak directly with **Sarah Angel** regarding renewal criteria for the first time (Sarah's 1-year restriction ends this weekend). - LA RA will continue preparing for a potential collective action campaign.
What's Happening with Working Group	Analysis of oversight survey results.
Preliminary Thoughts for Next LAAC Meeting	Will present recommended strategic direction and goals for the 18-19 school year for LAAC discussion.

Facilities – Long Term Agreements *North Star: Los Angeles charter school families have access to long-term, stable, District facilities that are equipped to support the learning needs of all students.*	
Current Strategy	**Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements:** We leveraged the dismissal of our two facilities lawsuits to push for an accelerated conversation regarding long-term facilities use agreements, and have been pushing on the issue all year with LAAC members starting with DRL. We have shared our facilities proposal with **Nick's** office as a starting place. Currently, we are working most closely with Nick's office on next steps, and his office is also working with District staff to move the needle on facilities. As we continue to work with **Nick** to remove roadblocks (e.g., OGC) and consider politically viable mechanisms to implement log-term agreements, we continue to push for and counsel on long-term facilities use agreements, either through leases from Prop. 39 or an RFP process. We will continue to build public pressure and awareness around facilities by organizing charter leaders to speak at public meetings and work with the new **Superintendent** and **Nick Melvoin** to push District policy toward approving long-term agreements.
	Public Facilities Inventory & Database: We learned that the board has already contracted with a company who is doing a District-wide facilities inventory, and will also be making recommendations around facilities use. The BOE passed a transparency-related resolution that can serve as the foundation for this work and we know from pre-Superintendent conversations with **Austin** indicate that he wants to move very quickly on a public inventory and database. Will work with the new Superintendent and **Nick Melvoin** to push District policy and directives toward inventorying and publishing District real estate and facilities-related information.
	Prop 39 Oversight: Prop 39 Oversight: Nick has indicated interest in adding charter representation to the space utilization committee to have a more direct lever to improve the process. We must push for this more explicitly, and also continue calling for improvements to Prop. 39 publicly at board meetings and through

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	media.
	Paradigm Shift in Facilities Allocation: Our strategy toward establishing a complete paradigm shift in the way in which District utilizes and allocates public school facilities will be a long-term strategy and is determinative upon building a persistent groundswell of support and achieving major facilities wins, such as public and transparent facilities inventories and successful long-term facilities use agreements. A shift will also depend on the development of a performance framework and results therefrom.
What Happened Last Week	**Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements:** We learned that **Nick, Allison and Sarah Angel**, will become heavily involved in pushing forward facilities policy and will meet with **David Holmquist, Jose Cole-Gutierrez, Mark Hovatter and Sean Jernigan** on July 11. **Nick** noted that there is a difference of opinion at the Board and leadership level about who and/or what division is responsible for road-blocking or obstructing progress on long-term agreements at the district-level. One objective of the meeting and follow-up work is to identify among **Holmquist, Jose, and Sean** where the bottleneck is occurring. The Facilities team is near complete on an all-district matrix identifying potential paths forward on long-term facilities use agreements (e.g., pilot-program, broad RFP, existing Prop 39 co-locations) and the potential # of schools, # of students, financial, political, etc., impact to inform further strategizing and planning. Facilities is continuing to work on extrapolating the same data for all board districts and is aiming to have complete by Monday.
	Public Facilities Inventory & Database: No new updates.
	Prop 39 Oversight: Prop 39 Oversight: LA RA sent **Monica Garcia** a list and anecdotes of all outstanding Prop 39 alt and shared use agreement issue that remain during the summer.
	Paradigm Shift in Facilities Allocation: No new updates.
What's Happening Next Week	**Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements: Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements:** - We will work to schedule a follow-up meeting in mid to late-July with Board Member **Melvoin** to discuss our facilities priorities and, importantly, learn about **Nick** and **Sarah's** internal meeting with **David Holmquist, Jose Cole-Gutierrez, and Sean Jernigan**. - Facilities will update the matrix it prepared identifying all of the potential paths forward on long-term facilities use agreements (e.g., pilot-program, broad RFP, existing Prop 39 co-locations) and the potential # of schools, # of students, financial, political, etc., impact to include not just BD4, but the remainder of LAUSD and will be used to inform further strategizing and planning and Cassy, **Emilio** and **Cristina's** meeting with **Board Member Nick Melvoin** and **Sarah Angel**. - We will be working to secure more information about the facilities inventory that **Jed** discussed with **Austin** to understand if and how we can influence the recommendations, but on a whole we are glad that

	recommendation has moved outside the District's hands.
	Public Facilities Inventory & Database: Same as above.
	Prop 39 Oversight: Same as above.
	Paradigm Shift in Facilities Allocation: Same as above.
What's Happening with Working Group	No recommended action until more information is gathered per next steps above.
Preliminary Thoughts for Next LAAC Meeting	Will present recommended strategic direction and goals for the 18-19 school year for LAAC discussion.

Facilities – Bond *North Star: State and local charter school bond dollars are allocated in a manner that is transparent and consistent with the long-term facilities needs of charter schools.*	
Current Strategy	Developing. Following confirmation that the District **will not** pursue a facilities bond in 2018, we are developing strategies and recommended next steps toward ensuring greater accountability and responsible spending of current bond dollars and, as **the possibility** of both a facilities bond and parcel tax in 2020 remains, continue to discuss and socialize with District leadership and the BOE equitable charter inclusion in any future bond or parcel tax. Although developing, our current strategy remains rooted in our initial bond strategy; namely that: 1. The reason we wanted a bond to move was so that we could quickly move on other facilities policy like long-term agreements. Without a bond as leverage, we need to make sure the District doesn't back off on this priority. 2. Charters must be included in the 2020 bond and parcel tax, and we will need to be ready to have those conversations with the board and Austin. 3. The District needs to address its unfunded liabilities and a parcel tax is a reasonable way to do this, but it needs to be done thoughtfully and strategically. For now, we can pause on the 2018 bond and use the upcoming summer to develop early planning for a potential 2020 bond and/or parcel tax.
What Happened Last Week	- On Thursday, the Board of Education released the agenda for the July 10 Annual and Regular Board Meetings and, as anticipated, it includes McKenna and Schmerelson's June 19 carry-over resolution titled *Fulfilling Our Commitment to Raise Revenue for Increased School Funding*, which calls upon the District to submit a parcel tax measure for the November

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	2018 ballot to generate revenue against the District's forecasted budget deficit. We compared and analyzed the June 19 vs. July 10 resolution and, where they differ most, is with respect to the District's submission of the abbreviated and full parcel tax measure for approval, which does not equitably include charters. Generally, the new July 10 Resolution remains ill-timed and for a variety reasons (and now supported by additional District-based evidence) must be voted down and defeated on July 10. - We had conversations with Board Members **Garcia, Melvoin, Gonez and Vladovic's** office staff about the parcel tax resolution. Board Members **Garcia, Melvoin, Rodriguez**, and **Gonez** (unless on maternity leave) and will likely oppose the resolution. - Also on Friday, we held a call with Los Angeles charter leaders to update them regarding LAUSD Board Member **McKenna** and **Schmerelson**'s resolution to place a parcel tax measure on the November 6, 2018, with ballot with language that does not include charters. We also asked members to hold 15-minutes on Monday, July 9, to call your board member's office and send an email encouraging them to stand for equitable charter and funding in any revenue-raising effort, including any future parcel tax, and to engage in a transparent, public conversation around these efforts to unite the entire District in support of all students. We will provide talking points, scripts, and template emails over the weekend. - Regional Advocacy continues to discuss with the Facilities and Legal teams a plan to pivot toward using the summer months for strategizing and planning toward increased access and greater accountability of remaining bond expenditures and funds under Measure Q and laying groundwork toward a potential bond measure and parcel tax in 2020. This remains something we will bring back to the LAAC for summer planning relative to our other priorities.
What's Happening Next Week	On Tuesday, the Board of Education will hear and consider **McKenna** and **Schmerelson's** June 19 carry-over resolution titled *Fulfilling Our Commitment to Raise Revenue for Increased School Funding*, which calls upon the District to submit a parcel tax measure for the November 2018 ballot to generate revenue against the District's forecasted budget deficit. We advocated to Board Members **Garcia, Melvoin, Rodriguez,** and **Gonez** the variety of practical and logical reasons why the resolution is ill-timed and must be voted down and defeated on July 10. We confirmed directly that Board Members **Garcia, Melvoin, Rodriguez** and **Gonez** are opposed to the Resolution and intend to vote against in on July 10. On Monday, July 9, LA charter leaders will call board member's office and send an email encouraging them to stand for equitable charter and funding in any revenue-raising effort, including any future parcel tax, and to engage in a transparent, public conversation around these efforts to unite the entire District in support of all students. CCSA will provide talking points, scripts, and template emails over the

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	weekend.
What's Happening with Working Group	Proposal: While we do not foresee a need for the FPWG to meet within the next two weeks, considering that bond advocacy and preparation constituted a substantial portion of recent work for FPWG/LAAC members, we should be among the first to let them know that the District will not pursue a 2018 facilities bond. We also need to work with the LAAC over the summer to identify next steps around a bond, and whether we shift our focus back to improving the Measure Q program, per Facilities' recommendation, and also must factor in a comprehensive strategy for both a parcel tax and bond.
Preliminary Thoughts for Next LAAC Meeting	Will present recommended strategic direction and goals for the 18-19 school year for LAAC discussion.

Relationships *North Star: The Los Angeles charter community establishes and maintains a leading voice informing LAUSD policy decisions with the new school board in place so that students and parents are at the forefront of District decision making.*	
Current Strategy	**Superintendent:** Using school leader knowledge and relationships with the new Superintendent, we are mapping what we know about Austin Beutner and creating a theory of action, with the goal of moving forward in concert with him on: 1. Updating renewal criteria 2. Changes at CSD so policy is followed consistently 3. Long-term facilities agreements and process transparency Through **Jed** and **Emilio** and the LAAC we are working to establish working relationships with Austin, and we will continue to build out a strategy for developing deeper relationships between him and the larger LAAC.
	Other Relationships: We are continuing to facilitate small-group meetings with LAAC members and LAUSD Board Members. We are holding on additional goals until the 2018-19 school year, due to capacity and low attendance/interest from LAAC members.
What Happened Last Week	**Superintendent:** No new updates
	Other Relationships: Previously, **Monica** indicated that she would like to sit down with LAAC leadership and CCSA in late July to discuss plans for the 2018-19 school year. Monica's staff has tentatively agreed to Tuesday, July 17th for this meeting. On Monday, we will confirm a time.
What's Happening Next Week	**Superintendent:** No new updates
	Other Relationships: - We will confirm a time for the Tuesday, July 17th meeting with **Monica**. - **Sarah Angel's** 1-year restriction ends this weekend. LA RA will speak directly with Sarah on Monday regarding renewal criteria. - We are planning effective ways to thoughtfully include external partners in strategic planning for 18-19.
What's	N/A

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Happening with Working Group	
Preliminary Thoughts for Next LAAC Meeting	Will present recommended strategic direction and goals for the 18-19 school year for LAAC discussion.

Pre-Reading: Additional Updates

1. Common Enrollment
   - We learned this week that **GPSN** is pursuing a grasstops advocacy strategy on common enrollment with the goal of getting **Austin Beutner** to direct the CSD to treat petition changes related to the upcoming charter pilot as administrative. **GPSN** is communicating with **Pedro Salcido** for clarity on the Superintendent's position in preparation for a meeting in the last week of July, and they are working with **Nick** and **Monica's** offices to advocate for this solution.
   - Last week, **Nick Melvoin** indicated a desire to push for a fully unified enrollment through a resolution in the fall. He indicated flexibility as to timeline and an understanding that the program would have to be overseen by a third party. Next week, we plan to check in with **GPSN** on next steps around the current pilot proposal and ask initial questions on a potential resolution. We will work to prepare the LAAC for a potential resolution coming this fall.
2. Board District 5
   - **CONFIDENTIAL:** We learned last week from Jed's conversation with Ref that **Ref Rodriguez's** resignation from the Board is likely within the next month, and we have begun internal preparations for what will happen with the seat once he steps down. This week, **Monica** indicated to **Gary Borden** that **Ama Nyamekye**, the Executive Director at Educators for Excellence, is a *no longer interested in being an appointee* to hold the seat until she is termed out in June 2019.
     This week, we spoke with CCSA Advocates staff to better understand our contingency plans. **Gary Borden** indicated that an appointment would be preferable, especially if we could find an established civic leader to serve as a caretaker appointee who would not run for the seat. While staff indicated that there are several people interested in running for the seat, we have a dearth of those interested in an appointment.
   - This is complicated by a rule that an appointee can be terminated *within 30 days of an appointment* with the submission of *approximately* 4500 signatures calling for a new board member. We are in the process of checking our understanding on the rules and procedures governing the appointment/special election scenarios and discussing the viability of each pathway. We are sourcing appointable candidates by reaching out to BD5 school leaders, LAAC members, influential school leaders, and external partners.
3. OIG Update
   - On Monday, Howard Blume reported that the three-month contract extension previously offered to LAUSD Inspector General **Ken Bramlett** (through September 2018)

was not finalized due to Bramlett's refusal to sign the extended contract. Bramlett is effectively no longer with the District and, as reported, current Deputy Inspector General **Austin Onwualu** will serve as the interim OIG lead. The article also noted that the short extension was widely believed to be a peacemaking compromise due to the 3-3 BOE split on whether to offer Bramlett a long-term position as Inspector General. It was also believed that the short extension would allow Bramlett to retain greater benefits upon leaving the District. Finally, the article noted that the proposed contract extension included a requirement that Bramlett surrender the job without recourse after the three-month period. Although the article does not elaborate, such a provision is often a broad release and waiver and raises questions as to whether that provision was problematic for Bramlett. We are seeking additional information from District staff and board members and will update as necessary.

4. Miscellaneous
    - Cassy has a phone call scheduled with the group of charter leaders hiring for a new position on Wednesday 7/11. She also had an extended conversation with both Marcia and Ana about the rationale and plans for this position. Cassy wants to coordinate with E & C about this on Monday 7/9 when she gets back.